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THE

REVIVAL

OF

ASTROLOGY.

BY

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"A Short Compendium of Astrology"

"Manual of Chess-Play"

"Geographical Primer"

"Astrological Self Instructor"

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REVIVAL
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GENTLEMEN,

When I speak of Astrology, you will perhaps laugh at me, and though some of you are charitable enough not to call me a fool, there will be many amongst you, who would at least think that my energies are ill-directed and hence will prove useless. It is against this mistake that I particularly desire you to guard yourselves. Most of our people are not men of a scientific turn of mind, and those few who are anxious to know the elementary principles of the Physical Sciences, commence at a somewhat advanced period of life and find not only that they have much to learn but much more also to unlearn. Familiar objects and events do not present themselves to our senses in the aspect and with the connections under which science requires them to be received and which constitute their true explanation. The general prevalence of vulgar errors, mistaken analogies and erroneous impressions must be overcome with a determined effort. Such an effort is the best commencement of that intellectual discipline which forms one of the most important ends of all science. There is no other science which more than Astrology stands in need of such a preparation. Almost all its conclusions stand in striking contradiction with those superficial and vulgar observations and with what appears to every one as the most positive evidence of his senses. The complicated relations and forces which keep the endless revolutions of the planets round the sun, and his motion on his own axis produce a

variety of terrestrial phenomena, which it would be beyond my power and present scope to take you into their innumerable details. Time, space, matter and energy are very important subjects, and volumes might be written upon each to explain its complicated and interesting phenomena. If the telescope takes us far beyond the standards of unaided sense in the direction of the infinitely great, the microscope, aided by calculations as to the nature of light, heat, electricity and chemical action takes us as far in the opposite direction of the infinitely small. The universe is made of shooting stars. The idea may seem paradoxical to the uninitiated but it is supported by the most eminent authorities and by a long array of serious scientific arguments. Life in its essence seems to be a state of matter in which the particles are in a continued state of flux and the individual existence depends not on the same particles remaining in the same definite shape, but on the permanance of a definite mould or form through which fresh particles are continually entering, forming new combinations and passing away. All the terrestrial and the greater portion of the celestial phenomena are directly traceable to the solar energy.

If you ask where the original energy came from, which has undergone these endless transformations, the answer must be mainly from the sun. The sun has been pouring forth his energy for countless ages in the form of light and heat, of which our earth only intercepts the minutest conceivable portion. How the sun got this energy is a mystery not yet solved, but one real cause which we can see and which has operated is the mechanical energy of the condensation by gravity of the atoms which originally formed the nebulous matter out of which the planet seems to have been formed. But if you ask how came the atoms into existence endowed with this marvellous energy, I must frankly tell you that we have reached the farthest bounds of human knowledge and refer you to the complicated doctrines of the metaphysical mysticism. We must return to the solid

ground of fact on which the human mind can stand firmly and gather fresh vigour by scientific observations for further efforts to enlarge the boundaries of knowledge and extend the domain of cosmos over chaos.

A clear knowledge of the power of little things is the grand secret of success in business, in arts, in sciences and in fact in every pursuit in life. Human knowledge is the sum total of small facts recorded by successive generations of men. Though many of these may have seemed in the first instance to have but very slight significance, they are all found to have their eventual uses and to fit properly into their respective places. Even many speculations, seemingly the most absurd, in course of time turn out to be the basis of results the most obviously practical and beneficial. Our splendid mechanical inventions are the results of a long series of apparently fruitless labours by mathematicians over the abstract relations of lines and surfaces. Franklin was sneered at when he made his discovery of the identity of lightning and electricity. Galvini was called a mad fool when he discovered that a frog's leg twitched when placed in contact with different metals. It could scarcely have been then imagined that so apparently insignificant a fact could have led to such important electrical inventions. Therein lay the germ of the electric telegraph which now binds the intelligence of the continents together. Little bits of stone and fossil dug out of the earth and intelligently interpreted, resulted in the science of Geology and the useful operations of mining in which immense capitals are now invested and vast numbers of persons are profitably employed. The huge machinery employed in pumping our mines, in the working out of our mills and manufactories and in the driving of our gigantic steamships and fast locomotives, depends entirely for its supply of power upon so slight an agency as particles of water expanded by heat. The ordinary steam which we see issuing from the common tea-kettle when pent up within an ingeniously contrived mechanism dis-

plays a force equal to that of millions of horses, and contains a power to break the roughest waves and to set even the most violent hurricanes at defiance. This same power is also at work within the deepest bowels of the earth, and has been the cause of the volcanoes and earthquakes which have played so mighty a part in the events of the history of the globe. Light travels at an enormous velocity and the velocity of ether particles is simply inconceivable. Tremendous stores of energies are included in small bodies of matter under great atmospheric pressure or enormous velocity. The wonderful intensity of the store of energy attainable by means of an extensive state of sub-division of matter which renders a high normal speed practicable, it may be computed that a quantity of matter representing in mass one grain, and possessing the normal velocity of the ether particles encloses a store of energy represented by upwards of one thousand millions of foot tons, or one grain of matter with the velocity of the ether particles encloses an amount of energy, which if entirely utilized, would be competent to project a weight of one hundred thousand tons to a height of nearly two miles. Such examples could be adduced by thousands and millions. These then show clearly that the whole world is directly under the control of the solar influences, and that the stores of energy pent up in the solar rays are incalculable and could be turned to material advantage by a definite knowledge of their respective powers. It is greatly to be regretted that there is an unfortunate tendency to ignore the existence of anything which does not appeal directly to our known senses. This tendency is most dangerous, as a vast number of physical facts would pass unknown and their influences unheeded, for as we know the most important facts may not always lie on the surface.

From a knowledge of the above facts I may here safely assert, and with the best scientific reasons, that astrology is not a visionary science and unworthy of our careful examination. It would be dangerous to deny

the doctrine of the existence of a free volition. We know that we can fashion our own selves and by our own actions bring upon ourselves certain results either good or bad.

It must be granted that there is a certain amount of free-will, else our existence has no reason and humanity no hope. The planetary system is continually pouring down upon us its astral waves just as it sends down upon us its ethereal rays of light. Moving on in an endless procession as it were, new angles are constantly formed by the planets, new positions are momentarily assumed and new effects are constantly developed and produced. Though the planets exercise an influence on the terrestrial phenomena, beings like man, with an independent volition, can, by various means, natural and artificial at their command, counteract against such influences and partly or wholly overcome their effects. If however they are not attended to, but allowed to have their full scope, they will surely produce their entire effects evil or good as the case may be. Each individual is given an instrument known as the volition, with which he may either oppose the evil influences or may opportunely take advantage of the good. Objects in nature while presenting a class or general resemblance, differ entirely in their individual peculiarities. This is easily explained by the influences of the minute forces, which have their existence in the luminous body, and which are entirely guided in their endless workings by the all powerful energy of the sun. The influences of the planets are evil or good according as they form their peculiar angles, retrogrades, aspects, conjunctions and accelerations. There is no necessity that we must yield to the evil influences of our alluring companions. They will be working in their own way, and if we have weak intellects, we are sure to fall into the snares prepared by them for us, but if we are strong then certainly we could, with a good mental effort, resist their temptations. There is no absolute law that we should succumb to the evil influences of the planets. But on the other hand it is our duty to oppose them when

evil just as it is our sacred duty to turn away at any cost from all evil temptations. We should presume no fatality but only assume a tendency in certain directions which when evil we have to manfully combat. The influence of the planets must be considered limited. Take a simple example. On a powerful sunny day, the solar influence, *i. e.* the heat of the sun's rays is felt, for instance, by different people in different ways in any given area. Not because there is any material difference in any given place in the rays themselves but because the means of resistence are different with different people. The poor man, with a weak intellect and with imperfect artificial means at his command, suffers from the effects of the solar heat completely, the middle class man, having better means than the former, partly protects himself from the effects of the solar influences and partly suffers from them, but the aristocrat or the wealthy man, entirely overcomes their effects, because he possesses ample means at his command. In the same way people may be divided into 3 classes (1) those who entirely succumb to the planetary influences without the least effort of their will on their part, (2) those who have partly developed their Psychic-powers, and who therefore partly oppose the evil influences of the planets and (3) those who entirely oppose the planetary influences and succeed by their extraordinary mental development to rise superior to them. The influence of the astral rays falls upon only a certain plane, and affects those who are on or below that plane, but those who are above that plane are not affected by it, and therefore can entirely set at nought the good or evil influences of the planetary bodies. It is fully demonstrated by scientists that the whole of the terrestrial phenomena is under the direct influence of the planets, and the only question now for us is to see how those influences affect the individual objects. Science teaches us that the terrestrial phenomena, mineral, vegetable and animal are the results of solar influences upon the earth we inhabit. But the earth is also subject to the influences of the other planets, which are entirely de-

pendent upon the sun. Scientists have shown that the sun's rays acting upon the mineral bodies, convert them into vegetables, again they are acted upon by the sun's rays and are converted into animals, animals consume minerals, vegetables and animals, and thus there is a continuous rotation and re-distribution of mineral, vegetable and animal particles. We know plants are directly affected by the solar energy and they draw their specific virtues from that primary source. These plants are of inestimable value to man in his economy of nature. A clever botanist calculates what natural forces are at work in any given place and regulates consequently his supplies of manure, light, heat and water to make it grow better than what the plant would have been, were it left to natural influences. Much of his success depends upon the exactness of his calculations and his knowledge of the necessary sciences bearing upon it. By a further development of the botanical sciences (of course it will take a long series of years for us to come to that stage of scientific perfection) we may be able to exactly estimate what properties medicinal or otherwise will be stored in by the particular plants under given physical conditions and if our calculations are exact enough we may dispense away even with our scales in compounding our economic medicines. It must be admitted that these and other virtues in plants are the direct results of solar and astral influences. To some little extent we have succeeded in determining in what proportion they hold their good and evil properties. This determination also enters largely into our calculations of the efficacy of the different plants grown in different areas and picked up at different periods to prevent or give relief to the various ills human nature is subject to.

It will not be difficult to calculate the influences of the planets upon national and individual destinies. The day of success in this direction may be very far off, but no attempt should be considered unworthy of our sincere exertions which has grand practical results in its view.

Geographers are astrologers on a small scale, because by a knowledge of the physical conditions past and present, they are able to sketch very roughly indeed, the characteristics of the different nations in different parts of the world. These physical conditions are entirely dependent upon planetary and astral influences. Man is as much the product of solar influences as the minerals and vegetables are. He is entirely influenced both in body and mind by the sun and the other planets which revolve round him. The class or genus is first identified by scientific research, and the individual comes to be recognized after a long time. General influences are more felt than the particular ones. And therefore the influences of the planets on national characteristics becomes easy of prediction, while influences on individuals take a more serious mental grasp for their solution and verification. We have seen that the constant working of these planetary influences, is the sole cause of the production of the terrestrial phenomena and when these forces are carefully studied in detail, there is nothing absurd when I say that this knowledge would be the basis of a grand science of discoveries and inventions, by means of which man may be able to oppose those planetary influences before they are allowed to have their full scope of action upon his destinies. It is clearly seen that the astrological influences under different scientific names have not only been recognized but have also led mankind to invent means to overcome partly or wholly their effects. Our houses, our tanks, our harbours, our gardens, our manufactories, our hospitals, our coaches, our dresses, and in fact everything we have, are valued because they serve to help us in warding off as much as possible the evil influences of the planets, and turning their good influences to our own advantage. How could we logically say that a science which reveals the nature of these influences is bad or its progress would be unprofitable.

Another important question is whether we could develope further means, natural or artificial by which we

can counteract the influences of the planets and turn them to our material advantage more than what we have done now. I boldly answer we can. But we have to do a good deal before this will be practicable. As we have invented or discovered several useful medicines to counteract against the climatic and water diseases; so also we can in the course of a few years develope means to oppose successfully the evil influences of malefic planets. Any science which enables us to judge man and his moral character, his ups and downs in life, his commencement and end, his health and sickness, his social and political relations, the development of his psychic powers, and the bounds of his terrestrial and celestial ambition, I repeat, cannot be useless or uninteresting. Such then are the uses of astrology proper. The grandest conceptions of human mind are here realized and ascertained, and to this science, the most sublime we are acquainted with, I desire gentlemen, to draw your attention and request you to consider calmly the possibility of the mightiest triumphs of science we may be able to achieve by its further research and progress. In my humble sphere of life I have had the satisfaction of seeing most of my future predictions verified; many of you—gentlemen—who have had any occasion to consult me, have seen personally that I did not misspend my time by devoting my leisure hours to its study. But what has been done is almost nothing when compared to what remains to be actually done. Single-handed I kept up the battle against non-believers in astrology, shared patiently the showers of abuse poured on my poor head, bore the ridicule of the so called educated classes with a philosophic mind, sacrificed what to the vulgar world appeared to be my bright prospects in life and in fact suffered to a great extent personally by studying and professing to study astrology and its kindred sciences.

I have, undoubtedly to a considerable extent, stemmed the current of educated public thought against astrology both by my astrological publications and by my numerous

lectures delivered in the various centres of intellectual activity for the purpose of reconciling astrology with the principles of the physical sciences and familiarising it among those who had no leisure to devote themselves to its technical and difficult studies. My great object now is to improve the existing works on astrology, to thoroughly cleanse them of the errors that have crept into their numberless pages, to appoint educated men under my personal supervision and guidance for systematising the study of the astrological principles, to collect the best works on the subject which might be procured either for love or for money, to encourage the study of astrology in the light of modern sciences, to cast horoscopes of persons on payment of reasonable fees, to appoint separate Siddanthees to devote their energies solely to the study of each of the 12 Zodiacal signs with their different significations, to investigate the ritualistic ceremonies prescribed for averting the evil influences of the planets, to start an astrological paper which would be the great and the exclusive medium for collecting and explaining all that pertains to the cause of astrology, to gather illustrative horoscopes from all parts of the globe from which fair inferences and predictions might be conveniently made, to establish a small institution wherein those who have an aptitude for astrological studies might profitably meet and improve their knowledge, to write easy pamphlets on this subject with a view to rouse the attention of the scientific world to watch the planetary influences on national and individual fortunes, to find means to avert the evil influences, as far as they can be, by the rules laid down in the astrological books, to appoint educated men to watch the planetary motions and revolutions and to induce astrologers in every part of the globe to communicate freely their individual observations and unite their personal efforts to further the cause of astrological sciences and thereby conduce to that material prosperity which is so sanguinely anticipated by its further cultivation and progress. I have personally spoken to many native gentlemen and all

of them, I am glad to say, have agreed with me in thinking that my proposal, if carried out, would certainly lead to good results. Even from the most worthless ambiton and gropings of the extravagant alchemists after the Philosopher's stone and the Elixer of life came the splendid science of chemistry, whose beautiful discoveries during the last few decades have so greatly revolutionised the existing order of things. Neither one man nor one age could perfect any science. Combination is the chief source of strength in the improvement of sciences, and as I have been singly trying to do my utmost to improve the astrological studies I earnestly request you—kind-hearted gentlemen—to give me your helping hand in the revival of the cause of astrology. This revival of the cause of astrology, I may here safely assert, will be productive of the greatest practical results and conduce to that high degree of material prosperity, which, the cultivation of no other known sciences, could ever be expected to give. I have been invited by the leading native gentlemen from all the principal stations in India, and I have determined to take trips to important intellectual centres with the object of familiarising this subject by means of public lectures and free discussions. I intend to establish a central institution in a convenient place to facilitate its studies and make further researches into it. No man need be ashamed of the little help that he may be able to give to this cause, as we have seen it is the little drops, which have by their combination made the ocean so grand, but every *man* must be truly ashamed when he withholds that help, which he could conveniently give, to further the cause of any grand movement which has for its object the improvement of the material prosperity of the world at large.

"Improve sciences and you will
improve yourself,"

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